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SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, may I know during what period the expenditure was incurred and what the nationality of this expert is? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, the period was between 27th December 1951 and 9th October 1952. The name of the expert is Mr. Leslie B. Riggins. He is a Well Drilling Expert of the Food and Agricultural Organization. I have no information about his nationality."

SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—" May I know the expenditure incurred on the artesian well, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice, Sir."

Generation of power from " Urakkuzhi " Water-falls, North Malabar.

* 657 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme to generate power from " Urakkuzhi " Water-falls, Kurumbranad taluk, North Malabar; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) All such possible schemes are known to Government and are investigated one by one in order of power potential at economic cost.

" (b) The Government Electricity Department have been collecting rainfall statistics since 1940–41 in respect of the Kuttiyadi River basin where the Urakkuzhi falls is situated. Hydro-metric survey of the basin has been included in the five-year programme already sanctioned by the Government for conducting such investigations and the work in this regard will be taken up in due course."

Srimushnam Poor Students' Hostel, Chidambaram taluk.

* 658 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for Government not recognizing the Srimushnam Poor Students' Hostel, Chidambaram taluk, run for the benefit of Backward Classes; and

(b) the dates of the first and the last representations received from the proprietor of the hostel requesting recognition of the hostel?

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The Srimushnam Poor Students' Hostel was recognized by the Department of Harijan Welfare in January 1954. It could not be recognized earlier for want of funds.

" (b) The first application was dated the 15th March 1952 and the last the 4th January 1954."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Sir, this is one of the few poor Backward Class students' hostels in the State which are run on proper lines. There are about 30 to 40 student boarders in the hostel. The Government have given recognition only to about 10 students and there are more than 30 students still to be recognized by the Government. Will the Government come forward to recognize all the other students also and thus assist the hostel to serve the poor students well? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, at the outset, as a matter of general policy, we give scholarships only to ten students. The question of increasing the grant will be considered next year."

SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—" Sir, here it is mentioned that there is a proprietor for the hostel. Do they mean a Manager or somebody or a gentleman who is making something out of running this hostel? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Perhaps, they mean the Manager."

Defalcation in the Manapparai Co-operative Marketing Society.

* 659 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any representation, dated 26th December 1953, from the Youth Congress, Manapparai, regarding the mismanagement and defalcation in the Manapparai Co-operative Marketing Society by its President and Secretary; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) & (b) A printed notice, dated 26th December 1953, issued by the Youth Congress, Manapparai was received by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. It contained among others the following allegations :—

(1) that the President of the Manapparai Co-operative Marketing Society sold in blackmarket iron and steel entrusted to the society for distribution to ryots; and

(2) that the Secretary used the Society's lorry for his own private contract work and paid the Society at a very low rate.